

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 IO-10 MC-01 ACDA-05 /092 W

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R 281400Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1547

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BELGIUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 481

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PO

SUBJ: US AID PROGRAM TO PORTUGAL

1. DURING DISCUSSION JANUARY 28 WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES I ASKED HIM TO GIVE ME PRIORITY AREAS IN WHICH US AID MIGHT BE HELPFUL. HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT THIS WAS A MATTER BETTER LEFT TO INDIVIDUAL MINISTRIES. WHEN I LISTED FOR HIM AREAS THAT WE HAD ALREADY ANNOUNCED (HOUSING, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE) HE AGREED AND SAID COMMUNICATIONS MIGHT ALSO BE AN INTERESTING FIELD TO LOOK INTO. SAID HE WOULD ASK THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO GIVE HIM THEIR IDEAS ON SUBJECT OF US AID.

2. HE THEN SAID AREA IN WHICH AID WAS REALLY NEEDED WAS MILITARY. HOWEVER THE MOMENT WAS NOT YET OPPORTUNE BECAUSE PORTUGUESE ARMY WAS STILL INVOLVED IN AFRICA AND NEW MISSION COULD NOT BE DETERMINED UNTIL TOTAL DISENGAGEMENT. HE SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED REQUEST FROM ANGOLANS TO KEEP PORTUGUESE FORCES THERE LONGER THAN AGREED UPON

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DATE (FEBRUARY 29, 1976) WHILE THIS WAS REASSURING, IN

A SENSE, IT ALSO COMPLICATED PROBLEM OF RESTRUCTURING
ARMED FORCES.

3. I TOLD HIM WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MILITARY
AID AT HIS CONVENIENCE. HE THANKED ME BUT REITERATED NOW
WAS NOT THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT.
CARLUCCI

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